

## TESTIMONY

of the

## CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

## GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

February 14, 2011

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

CCM <u>supports</u> Raised Bill 384 "AAC the Number of Polling Places and Moderators for Primaries".

This bill would allow registrars of voters to (1) designate fewer polling places for primaries and (2) in the situation where more than one primary is taking place, to designate a single moderator to serve for both primaries.

There are large expenses associated with each polling place that has to be opened for voting - programming of machines, staff, etc - along with staff costs. Primaries historically turn out fewer voters and this bill would provide local election officials with the authority to make the decisions most appropriate for their community that could provide significant savings.

CCM urges the committee to <u>support</u> this bill and <u>favorably report</u> it.

## ## ##

If you have any questions, please contact Kachina Walsh-Weaver, Senior Legislative Associate of CCM via email <a href="mailto:kweaver@ccm-ct.org">kweaver@ccm-ct.org</a> or via phone (203) 498-3026.